



## FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

Office of Inspector General

May 28, 2019

Dear Mr. Laity:

Thank you for submitting a complaint to the Federal Election Commission (FEC) Office of Inspector General (OIG). We take all complaints seriously and thoroughly review each submission.

It is natural to want to know what has happened to your complaint once we receive it. However, all OIG complaints and investigative matters are confidential under the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, and other laws and regulations. Confidentiality is critical for the OIG to be able to effectively and independently conduct administrative and criminal investigations. Therefore, our office does not provide notice of the opening or closing of complaint-based inquiries or investigations, or information regarding the progress, developments, decisions, results or outcomes of complaint-based inquiries or investigations.

There are two instances in which you might hear back from the OIG. The first of these is if a complaint is misfiled with our office when it should have been filed with another FEC office or another agency, such as the Department of Justice or Election Assistance Commission. Second, in some instances, we may need to contact you for additional information to be able to proceed with an inquiry.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** Complaints involving an alleged violation of federal election or campaign finance law fall under the jurisdiction of the FEC Office of General Counsel (OGC), not the Office of Inspector General. The OIG does not forward or transfer election and campaign finance law complaints to the OGC due to statutory requirements set forth in the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, specifically 2 U.S.C. 437g(a)(1). Therefore, if your complaint involves an alleged violation of federal election or campaign finance law, you must file it directly with the OGC and follow the guidelines found at <http://www.fec.gov/pages/brochures/complain.shtml>. Mary Beth Debeau, an OGC paralegal, is available to assist you with the complaint filing process, and she may be reached toll-free at 800-424-9530 (press 0, then extension 1650), or locally at 202-694-1650.

Complaints regarding voter or election fraud, candidate eligibility or fraud, access to or issues involving polling places, or voter intimidation or harassment should generally be directed to the U. S. Department of Justice or local and state authorities.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any additional information you believe might be relevant to your complaint.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carla Smith".

Carla Smith

Counsel to the Inspector General and Chief Investigator